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PRESS GUIDANCE

ARA - September 27, 1979

ARGENTINA: TIMERMAN'S RELEASE

AK 303

Q. Do you have any comment on Jacobo Timerman's release from house arrest and expulsion from Argentina?

A. As you know, Mr. Timerman's case has been the subject of considerable interest and concern in this country. We are pleased that the Government of Argentina has released Mr. Timerman and has allowed him to join his family in Israel.

Q. Do you know why Mr. Timerman was released at this time?

A. We understand that the Argentine Supreme Court recently found in Mr. Timerman's favor when his case was taken before it. We assume that his release was a result of the actions of the Court. If so, the functioning of the Argentine judiciary now in this case may be a positive signal for the future. At the same time, it is to be regretted that he had to endure prison and detention for two and one-half years.

Q. How does the release of Timerman affect U.S. policy toward Argentina?

A. The release of Timerman is a positive action. At the same time, we continue to be concerned about the human rights situation in Argentina, such as the remaining political prisoners and the thousands who have disappeared.

Drafted: ARA/ECA - MAdams

Cleared: ARA/P - DEMathe
ARA/ECA - CRuser
ARA - SEaton
HA - MSchneider
HA - PDerian (draft)

82 D103
Box 17404

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S20000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Griefeld, Director
(X) Release () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s):
Classify: () In Part () In Full
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date Declassify on Reason